

A VIEW FROM FEW

AN ORGANIZATION FOR OPPORTUNITY AND EQUALITY
FOR WOMEN IN GOVERNMENT

Space Coast Chapter, Kennedy Space Center, FL

March, 2003

SPACE COAST CHAPTER, FEW 2002 – 2003

Officers and Committees

President	Barbara Powell
Finance	Clara Anderson
Newsletter	Sharon White
NTP/RTP Planners	Dawn Partlow and Patti Rissman
Nominations	Carolyn Burnham
Parliamentarian	
President Elect	Dawn Partlow
Seminar	Karin Biega & Jean Grenville
Compliance/Diversity	Gail McLean
Webmaster	Debbie Ward
Vice President	Patti Rissman
Programs/Publicity	Becky Fasulo
Community Outreach	Vickie Hall
Bylaws	Past Presidents
Treasurer	Karin Biega
Membership	Becky Denis
Environmental	Aneta Ott
Sunshine	Karen Jansma
Secretary	Suzanne Worland
Scholarships	Jane Eitel
Legislation	Marie Argana
Historian	Jean Grenville
Past President	Connie Dobrin
Nat'l VP for Training	Becky Fasulo
Regional Nominations	Jane Eitel
Regional Legislation	Marie Argana

March Is Women's History Month

This issue is dedicated to all the great women of the world past, present, and future who make our lives richer for having shared themselves with us.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Barbara Powell



It's the end of February, and time to be planning to attend the 24th Annual Training Program (ATP), "Charting the Next Adventure", March 12, & 13, 2003, at the Holiday Inn in Cocoa Beach. The ATP committee has been hard at work since last summer and, now is the time for you as members to remember to submit your training requests and remind your co-workers to do the same. Remember the ATP activities are not limited to women's issues. This year we have Fred Soto, from Straight Talk Enterprises, as our keynote speaker. Fred is an internationally recognized motivational speaker, and has helped thousands of people to improve their performance both personally and professionally. He brings over 25 years of hands-on business experience, and provides his subject matter with a uniquely positive view of the future into practical application at all levels. The four daily workshops, which are repeated each day, were designed to provide a variety of training opportunities. William Eason will address "Buy a Car Without Getting Ripped Off", Joyce Duce will be bringing a new approach to "Taking Control of Your Life - Stress Management", Mary Kay Mueller speaks to "How to Feel Good & Stay Positive; and last but not least my favorite Lawrence Gardner with "It's a Jungle Out There". **Don't miss this exciting conference filled with career-boosting insights and knowledge for attendees of all ages. SEE YOU IN COCOA BEACH.**



Question of the Month

**Do You Know The Right Way to Brush
Your Teeth?**

The fact you've been doing it your whole life doesn't make you a pro. Here's the correct way to brush, according to Debra L. Sangiuliano, Johnson & Johnson's resident expert. Time: two minutes.

- Your front teeth sit opposite salivary ducts that shoot them with tartar-hardening calcium salts all day. Use a dry brush with a small head and soft bristles to scrub off plaque.
- Time for a pea-size amount of paste: Polish the chewing surfaces. Then, holding the brush at a 45-degree angle to the gums, wiggle it back and forth over one or two teeth so that the bristles clean right into the gum line. As you move on, overlap the ones you've just cleaned. Don't forget surfaces on the tongue side!
- Brush your tongue to loosen plaque and halitosis-causing bacteria in crevices. A horizontal stroke won't activate the gag reflex as much.



MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE



We are truly glad to have our members support our Chapter and if anyone has any questions, call Becky Denis at: 321-867-4104 (voice), 321-867-1458 (fax) or E-mail at Rebecca.M.Denis@nasa.gov
If you haven't yet sent in your membership dues, please send your check to our Treasurer, Karin Biega at XA-A.



PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Becky Fasulo

Our February meeting was very well attended and we had a very interesting and entertaining speaker. Dr. Kenneth Stein was our guest speaker and he gave many hints to improve our memory – "Pictures in the Mind: Using Visualization to enhance Memory". Thank you, again, Dr. Stein for your insightful presentation.

We will not be having a monthly program meeting in March since we are presenting our Annual Training Program.

April will be our Membership Drive Program. Date and time to be announced, so keep your eyes and ears open for the notice

Questions or comments, please contact Becky Fasulo, 867-4436 or rebecca.fasulo-1@ksc.nasa.gov.

DIVERSITY/COMPLIANCE

Gail McLean

The Space Coast Chapter of FEW Compliance & Diversity Committee Initiatives & Activities:

The initiatives and activities are the same for both committee's, but they differ in scope of purpose. For the purposes of FEW, the term "Compliance" in its broadest meaning is conformance on the part of a Federal department, agency, or subordinate agency with existing laws pertaining to the administration of the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Program and the Federal Personnel System. FEW is primarily concerned with the regulations and compliance with these laws by monitoring agency and local activity programs and in providing guidance to FEW members and other employees. Through the Diversity program, the Federally Employed Women's Program (FEW) develops strategies to identify and eliminate barriers and diversity within the Federal Government.

The initiatives, and activities are designed to encompass the responsibilities of the these Committee's for the Space Coast Chapter of FEW, to provide for thoroughness in committee structure and appropriate networking, while providing for growth and change. Each committee requires a minimum of three (3) Lead Members (1-Structure Communications, 1-Problem Resolution, and 1-Membership Awareness).

Initiative: Committee Structure

Activity: Includes establishment, and maintenance of communications with related committee's for the Space Coast Chapter of FEW, the Board of Directors of the Space Coast Chapter of FEW, the Diversity & Compliance Committee's of the other 11 Regions (300 Chapters), the Vice President for Diversity at the National Level of our Federally Employed Women's Program, and the local office of the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Program.

Initiative: Problem Resolution & Communication Path

Activity: Information comes into our Chapter from the groups described above, and is distributed to our members with approval from the Board of Directors of the Space Coast Chapter of FEW.

Activity: Information concerning local violation of compliance on the part of a Federal department, agency, or subordinate agency with existing laws will be passed to the FEW Congressional and Government Liaison at the National Level, with approval from the Board of Directors of the Space Coast Chapter of FEW.

Activity: All special needs, and concerns of a member of the Space Coast Chapter of FEW will be logged, reported to the Board of Directors of the Space Coast Chapter of FEW, and referred to the local office of the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Program.

Initiative: Membership Awareness

Activity: At a minimum, promote local annual training on the topic(s) of the Federally Employed Women's Legislative Program, and support promotion of annual training at the National level..

Activity: At a minimum, generate/provide quarterly Compliance Committee articles concerning the FEW Legislative Program, for inclusion to issues of the Space Coast Chapter of FEW News Letter

**2003 National Training Program
July 7 – 11**

Chicago's NTP Theme is, "Building Tomorrow's Leaders Today". For more information go to the FEW website at <http://www.few.org>



SUNSHINE
Karen Jansma

Celebrating birthdays in March:

Jane Eitel	03/14
Clara Anderson	03/16
Selyna Hopkins	03/19
Jean Grenville	03/29

Karol Purer

03/28

Happy Birthday!

Our Chapter would like to continue to remember our FEW Sisters Birthdays as well as any other significant events in our members' lives, so please send information to Karen Jansma at Karen.S.Jansma@nasa.gov. Also, if your big day comes around and it is not noted in the monthly Newsletter, please let Karen know.

Karen sent sympathy cards to:
Betty Valentine, Space Coast Chapter
Arlena Gordon, National VP for Diversity
Olivia Newsome, President Southern Maryland Chapter

Karen sent get-well cards to:
Freda Kurtz, Past National President
Pat Wolfe, National President

XX

Women Put Their Stamp on America

Nellie Bly, Marguerite Higgins, Ethel L. Payne, and Ida M. Tarbell made contributions to journalism during different times in our history, but were all trailblazers in a field dominated by men. They entered the fields of investigative journalism, war correspondence, and political reporting. Their hard work earned them awards, fame, and more importantly, created opportunities for future women journalists.

"The Women in Journalism stamps evoke the free and creative spirit of the United States," said Francia G. Smith, Vice President and Consumer Advocate for the Postal Service, who dedicated the stamps. "We're sure these stamps will be very popular with our customers and stamp collectors, as well as all those who value the landmark accomplishments of women in our society and the great journalists throughout history."

XX

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Jane Eitel

Each year, the Space Coast Chapter Federally Employed Women sponsor scholarships for dependents of KSC employees who are either a graduating senior in high school or already enrolled in college as an undergraduate student.

Last year, the Chapter sponsored nine students to help defray the cost of college necessities. Each scholarship ranged from \$500 to \$1,000.

The winners will be notified no later than May 2, 2003. You can obtain an application by calling Jane Eitel /QA at 867-7952; Karin Biega/XA-A at 867-6382; or Maxine Johnson/YA at 867-7770.

We are accepting applications dated up to March 14, 2003. To date, we have received 130 applications.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

GOVERNMENT NEWS & LEGISLATION

Marie Argana



GUIDANCE ON 2003 INCREASE STILL PENDING
Federal employees will receive a 4.1 percent pay raise, retroactive to January 1. This is a 1-percentage boost over the amount that took effect in January when Congress failed to enact a raise figure last year. Guidance is expected to be issued soon regarding procedures for granting retroactive raises for employees under a catchall budget measure recently enacted by Congress and signed by President Bush. The increased raise will be effective as of the first full pay period of the new year, meaning that employees might get one-time payments, in addition to the increase in their basic rate of pay. In addition to granting a higher raise to GS employees, the measure will raise the pay caps applying to wage grade employees, whose raises are set according to the lower of the GS average raise figure or the amounts indicated for them by local wage surveys.

FEDERAL WORKFORCE FLEXIBILITY ACT
Sen. George Voinovich (R-Ohio) has introduced in the Senate a bill, the Federal Workforce Flexibility Act, which would reform several areas relating to federal employment.

The legislation provides for the expansion of agency authority to conduct personnel management demonstration projects, and for changes relating to recruitment, retention and relocation bonuses. The bill would streamline critical pay authority and would adjust the civil service retirement system computation for part-time service. The bill also proposes annual leave enhancements for members of the Senior Executive Service and newly hired federal employees with qualified experience.

The legislation, S.129, has been referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

Great American Women

Barbara A. Mikulski
Maryland - D

"Our greatest defense is for a people who can go beyond their own personal experience for information. As long as an individual can read and have access to facts, there is no way to control his or her mind. Then we are truly free."

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March

Women's History Month

12-13 Annual Training Program, CB Holiday Inn

April

01 All Fool's Day

Toward Better Writing

Clara Anderson

Of all the *myths* of effective writing, the concept of writing to **impress** rather than to **express** has maintained its grip on most writers longer and more strongly than any other. We feel its attraction, and give in to temptation. We fill our written communication with big, intimidating (and often obsolete!) words, using complex sentence structure no one could diagram.

People sometimes refer to the alternative as "**plain language**." The expression scares people away, because we somehow confuse *simple* with *childish*. We fear a loss of respect--that, somehow, people won't take our writing seriously if we use everyday words and structure to express our thoughts. Then try another term: "**clear writing**."

Albert Einstein (a pretty intelligent guy) once said, "My goal in stating any idea is to make it as simple as possible, but no simpler." Of course the truth of this statement leaps out at us: if the idea were *too* simple, it would be incomplete and ineffective. But to make anyone work harder than necessary to understand your idea doesn't say "genius" to me!

This battle has gone on a long time. The English satirist Jonathan Swift wrote about a society of lawyers who spoke "in a peculiar cant and jargon of their own, that no other mortal can understand." (*Gulliver's Travels, 1726*) Great communicators of the 19th century, including Abraham Lincoln and Mark Twain, credited their use of clear writing and speaking for their success. William Strunk and E. B. White, whose *The Elements of Style* has guided good writing since Strunk compiled what he called his "little book" almost 90 years ago, say this: "Do not overwrite. Rich, ornate prose is hard to digest, generally unwholesome, and sometimes nauseating." **THESE IDEAS ARE NOT NEW!!**

Even *lawyers* (the good ones) recognize the benefits of clear writing. Joseph Kimble writes, "If anything deserves to be called artless, it is the great bulk of traditional legal writing." Professor John Lindsay calls law books "the largest body of poorly written literature ever created by the human race." In a four-state test involving nearly 1,500 judges and lawyers, 86 percent of them preferred plain language to traditional legal style after reading legal writing examples of both.

But bar associations in Texas and Michigan have established plain language committees. A 1992 conference of the Legal Writing Institute resolved (1) the way lawyers write has produced complaints for over 400 years; (2) legal language should agree with common speech, unless reasons dictate differently; (3) legalese is unnecessary and no more precise than plain language; (4) plain language is an important part of good legal writing; and (5) plain language means language clear and readily understandable to the intended readers.

Follow these simple steps to accomplish Clear Writing, or Plain Language:

- Use words people know and understand
- Don't use a long word when a short word will do
- Follow traditional subject-verb-object sentence structure
- Write conversationally--as if you were speaking your message to your reader instead of writing it

An often-told story about Napoleon: before he issued any battle instructions, he would always give them to the least-educated member of his army. If that person understood the message, he knew everyone could understand it. If that soldier didn't understand it, Napoleon re-wrote the instructions until the soldier could.

2003 ANNUAL TRAINING PROGRAM

Karin Biega, Chair

The registrations are coming slowly - looks like this year's event will be one of our smallest yet. Not sure if it's a general cut-back in training funds or folks are deeply involved in the Columbia investigation and unable to take a day off.

The registration committee is working hard to process registrations and Gina O'Shaughnessy, Logistics Chair, is gathering the required equipment for the speakers. Hospitality chair, Sandy McCandless, has reserved a portion of Grills in Port Canaveral for Chapter Members to join with the speakers and have a leisurely meal (Dutch treat). Graphics/Repro Chair, Cindy Gooden is finalizing the preparation of the speaker plaques, plus the printing of the program books and folder inserts. Everyone is invited to join the ATP committee at the Holiday Inn on Tuesday, March 11, around 5:00 to stuff the folders; heavy snacks will be provided.

Thanks to all my committee folks; this has been a short, quick working period and again you've proven why Space Coast is so GOOD! It is filled with dynamic, hard working women!

SPACE COAST CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Sharon White

This monthly publication is a means of sharing information and ideas, please send news articles or

items of interest for this Newsletter to Sharon White
at QP-ES-A-or e-mail
Sharon.L.White-1@nasa.gov

Please feel free to share this Newsletter with your
friends. And for anyone interested, a Membership
Application is attached as the last page.

New Applicant		Renewal		Previous Member		Change of Membership Info	
Name		Membership Number		Birth Date			
Home Address							
City, State, Zip							
Home Phone							
Agency/Company							
Mail Code/Address							
City, State, Zip							
Work Phone		FAX #					
E-mail Address							
If interested in serving as a Chapter Officer, please indicate which office							
President		President Elect		Vice President		Secretary	Treasurer
METHOD OF PAYMENT							
(Credit Cards only available Jan-Mar)							
Total Amount Due: see schedule below							
Cash or Check		Check No.		Credit Card		Visa	Master Card
Card Number					Expiration Date (MM/YY)		
Print Cardholders Name (as it appears on card)				Signature (Credit Cards Only)			

Please place an X by the month dues are paid and pay the indicated amount.

	Month	Amount Due		Month	Amount Due		Month	Amount Due
	February	\$30.00		March	\$28.00		April	\$26.00
	May	\$24.00		June	\$22.00		July	\$20.00
	August	\$17.00		September	\$15.00		October	\$13.00
	November	\$11.00		December	\$9.00		January	\$7.00

The National Office requesting the following for statistics only:

Position/Title: _____ Series/Grade: _____

Circle One: SES GM GS WG Military Other

Circle if Applicable: FWP Full-time FWP Part-time EEO

Demographics

FEDERALLY EMPLOYED WOMEN, INC.

Space Coast Chapter 009

Membership Application

Sex [F/M]: _____

Race: _____

Years of Service: _____

Retired [Y/N]: _____

Membership dues are to be paid February 1st of each year. However there is a pro-rated fee schedule for those joining after March 1st. Please contact the Membership Chair, Becky Denis, 867-4104 if you have questions concerning your dues.

Form Revised (07/01)